3: Anonymous U-4 (no date) 1920 RH1 Caucasia RH1



own homes, and a rise of from 10 per cent. to 50 per cent. in the rates of pay. A promise of improved housing had been obtained when war broke out, and the men returned to work.

In the matter of wages, the demand at Baku was for a minimum of £3 10*s.* a month; in 1908 an ordinary labourer on the oil-fields had earned only from 32*s.* to 40*s.* a month. In other industries ordinary labourers received from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* a day, artisans from 5*s.* to 7*s.* 6*d.*, and miners from 5*s.* to 8*s.* 4*d.* Italian masons were paid from 3*s.* 4*d.* to 6*s.* 8*d.* a day. Agricultural labourers in 1913 were receiving from about 1*s.* 7*d.* to about 2*s.* 2*d.* a day, wages being highest in Kutais and lowest in Terek. Female labour, which is much used both in agriculture and in industry, is very poorly paid.

Since 1912 accident and sickness insurance has been compulsory for large industrial concerns. Medical attendance, maintenance during illness, and pensions for totally disabled workmen and for the dependants of workmen accidentally killed in their employers' service, have to be provided by the employers.

## (2) Agriculture

### (*a*) *Products of Commercial Value.*

*Vegetable Products.—Cereals* grow well in the soil of Ciscaucasia, which is a continuation of the 'black earth' of southern Russia. The area planted with *wheat* in 1914 throughout the country was 12,700,000 acres, yielding nearly 3,000,000 tons of grain; nearly 5,000,000 acres were in Kuban and over 4,000,000 in Stavropol. The area under *barley* in the two divisions of Caucasia in 1914 was about 5,500,000 acres (yielding 1,600,000 tons), and of these more than 4,000,000 were in Ciscaucasia—2,000,000 in Kuban, 1,600,000 in Stavropol, and the rest in Terek. Between 1911 and 1915 Ciscaucasia produced on an average one-third of the total output of winter wheat in the whole Russian Empire and about 15 per cent. of the entire yield of